

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A package of collated nails suitable for sheathing comprising:

a plurality of nails suitable for sheathing, each nail comprising:

a substantially round head having a flat top surface suitable for being driven into a flush relationship with an exterior surface of a sheathing panel and a bottom surface, the head further having a head diameter;

a single elongate shank integral with the head and extending from the head bottom surface, the elongate shank further including a point opposite the head, and a plurality of surface deformations formed on the shank, the surface deformations being configured to provide an enhanced resistance to panel separation by withdrawal of the nail shank from a framing structure, the shank further having a substantially round cross-section having a shank diameter between .092 and .148 in.;

wherein:

each nail is manufactured from steel wire;

each nail has a length defining the distance from the head to the shank point, the length being between 1.625 inches and 3.00 inches;

for the nail length, the shank diameter of each nail generally corresponds to a shank diameter as specified by ASTM F1667-95 for common nails of that nail length specified for use with mechanical drivers, the head diameter providing an enlarged bottom head surface area for engaging the exterior surface of the sheathing panel to enhance resistance to panel separation by head pull through; and

the ratio of the head diameter to shank diameter of each nail is between 2.70 and 3.37; and

at least one attachment element constructed to temporarily attach the plurality of nails into a package.

2. (Original) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the surface deformations of each nail comprise a plurality of longitudinally spaced apart rings extending radially outwardly from the shank.

3. (Currently Amended) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the length of each nail is approximately 2 inches, the ~~shaft~~ shank diameter is approximately .113 in., the

head diameter is approximately .320 in., and the ratio of head diameter to ~~shaft~~ shank diameter is approximately 2.83.

4. (Currently Amended) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the length of each nail is approximately 2.5 inches, the ~~shaft~~ shank diameter is approximately .113 in., the head diameter is approximately .320 in., and the ratio of head diameter to ~~shaft~~ shank diameter is approximately 2.83.

5. (Original) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the head of each nail has a circular shape.

6. (Original) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the surface deformations are disposed at least between a middle position on the shank, halfway between the point and the head, and the point.

7. (Original) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the shank has a circular cross-section.

8. (Original) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the attachment element comprises a frangible plastic binding element attached to each nail of the package.

9. (Original) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the attachment element comprises a frangible wire welded to each nail of the package.

10. (Original) The package of collated nails of claim 1, wherein the attachment element comprises frangible paper attached to each nail of the package.